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# Forest Service News



Pacific Northwest Region  
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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Q-19  
7-9-80

## High-Altitude Photography Aids Volcano Damage Assessment

Photography from high-altitude U-2 aircraft is being used by USDA Forest Service to help planners determine the extent of damage and decide alternatives for management in and around the Mount St. Helens Geological Area of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest.

An extensive volcano damage assessment is being compiled by the Forest Service, the Washington State Department of Natural Resources, National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), and the USDI Geological Survey, according to Regional Forester R.E. Worthington, Pacific Northwest Region.

Information from the study will be used by the Forest Service and other agencies directly involved with rehabilitation efforts in the Mount St. Helens region, said Worthington.

A four-man team of photo interpretation analysts from Lockheed Engineering Services has been putting together photo overlays on USGS and Forest Service maps showing the various degrees of timber, landform, transportation and hydrology damage, Worthington said. The Lockheed team is under contract to the Forest Service's National Forestry Applications Program.

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Pre- and post-eruption photography of the blast area was provided through the use of infrared photos taken from 65,000 feet from U-2 planes, said the Forest Service's John Pruitt, engineering coordinator for the project. Numerous photos of the blast area taken before and after the May 18 eruption have given clear comparative views of topography affected by the volcano, Pruitt said.

The photos will cover an area roughly bounded by Interstate 5 on the west, the Mount Adams area on the east, the Columbia Gorge on the south, and the Randle, Washington, area on the north.

The photo interpretation work being done is a major step in an assessment study that will quantify and evaluate damage caused by the Mount St. Helens eruptions. Further study and evaluation will result in specific management plans for the unique area.

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## Colville Forest Supervisor Retires

Robert B. Terrill, supervisor of the Colville National Forest in northeastern Washington, will retire August 23 after 35 years of government service.

No successor has been chosen, according to Regional Forester R.E. Worthington, Pacific Northwest Region, USDA Forest Service.

A native of Idaho, Terrill earned a bachelor of science degree in forestry in 1949 from the University of Idaho. He served in the U.S. Air Force from 1942 to 1946. Terrill did post graduate work at Utah State University and in 1951 received his permanent Forest Service appointment on the Boise National Forest as timber management aid.

Subsequent assignments took him to the Payette and Sawtooth National Forests in Idaho, then to Moab, Utah, in 1956 where he was a district ranger on the Manti-LaSal National Forest. From 1958 to 1960 he was timber, lands and recreation staff officer in the supervisor's office on the Manti-LaSal Forest in Price, Utah.

In 1960 he transferred to the regional office in Ogden, Utah, then returned to the Manti-LaSal National Forest in 1965 as forest supervisor. In 1969, another promotion took him to Washington, D.C., to be assistant director of watershed management for the USDA Forest Service.

His first assignment in the Pacific Northwest was a director of watershed management in the Portland regional office from 1972 until 1974 when he moved to Colville, Washington, as supervisor of the Colville National Forest.

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## Willamette Forest Supervisor Named

Michael A. Kerrick, former deputy supervisor of the Mt. Hood National Forest, has been chosen supervisor of the Willamette National Forest, headquartered at Eugene.

Kerrick is now supervisor of the Coconino National Forest in Arizona. Kerrick will report to his new job October 20, according to Regional Forester R.E. Worthington, USDA Forest Service.

Kerrick, 47, left the Mt. Hood Forest in 1976. He succeeds John E. Alcock, who left in May to become deputy director of Resources Planning Act activities for the Forest Service in Washington, D.C.

The new Willamette Forest supervisor previously served on that National Forest, as well as the Mt. Baker Forest in Washington and the Six Rivers Forest in northern California. He began fulltime employment with the Forest Service in 1954, the year he earned his degree in forest management at the University of Minnesota. Kerrick worked on the McKenzie Ranger District of the Willamette National Forest before graduation, and later worked on the Lowell, Blue River, and Oakridge Districts of that Forest. He was district ranger of the Blue River District from 1968 to 1971.

He and his wife, Susan, have seven children. The youngest child will accompany the couple to Eugene.

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Q-22  
8-20-80

## Forest Service Markets 'Unwanted' Wood

A program to market "unwanted" wood residue in the national forests of Oregon and Washington to increase availability of wood chips has been successful, according to USDA Forest Service.

An interim report shows that in the two months since the program was launched in the Pacific Northwest, 76 million board feet of wood have been sold to the wood chip market, according to R.E. Worthington, Regional Forester.

In the past, the material, mostly from logging operations, had been burned or left to rot because it was not marketable. Last spring, the Forest Service initiated a study to see if it would be feasible to relieve unemployment by getting more chippable material in use at a time when lumber and plywood markets were depressed and the chip market strong.

Sales to accommodate need were in addition to regularly scheduled sales in the Pacific Northwest Region, accomplished without additional financing.

In addition to the sale program, Worthington said, other steps have been taken to get more material on the market. As of July 31, 63 brush disposal and other types of contracts with salvage rights were made. Salvage rights were utilized on 20 of these contracts and so far 4 million board feet have been removed. Also, 43 timber sale contracts were modified to incorporate material not previously included. This generated an additional 29 million board feet of which 8.4 million board feet have been removed. A side benefit of the program is the reduction of fire hazard on 4,257 acres of cutover land through the removal of potential fuels, he added.

The program will continue as long as there is a demand for residue material. However, a reviving lumber market, in which wood chips are produced as a by-product of sawmill operations, would result in a decline in this kind of sale.

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